

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

# PCT

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference  E-2442/04	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> <small>see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.</small>	
International application No.  PCT/IB2004/003480	International filing date (day/month/year)  21/10/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year)  23/10/2003
Applicant  PARRAVICINI, Roberto Erminio		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

**1. Basis of the report**

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. ☐ With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☒ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box II).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the **drawings**,

a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/003480

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61F2/24

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P,X	WO 2004/058106 A (ARBOR SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIES, INC; FOGARTY, THOMAS, J; DREWS, MICHAEL,) 15 July 2004 (2004-07-15) paragraph '0070! - paragraph '0075! paragraph '0121! claim 70 figures 11-15	1,6,7, 9-12
A	----- US 5 571 175 A (VANNEY ET AL) 5 November 1996 (1996-11-05) column 3, line 59 - column 4, line 5 column 8, line 17 - line 20	1-13
P,A	----- US 6 652 540 B1 (COLE DAVID H ET AL) 25 November 2003 (2003-11-25) column 4, line 66 - column 13, line 3 ----- -/-	1-13

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

## ° Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

8 February 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

17/02/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Mary, C

**International Application No**  
**PCT/IB2004/003480**

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	CH 608 368 A5 (SULZER AG) 15 January 1979 (1979-01-15) column 1, line 15 - column 2, line 67 -----	1-13
A	US 5 123 918 A (PERRIER ET AL) 23 June 1992 (1992-06-23) column 8, line 22 - column 13, line 5 -----	1-13

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/IB2004/003480

## Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: **14**  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
**Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery**
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

### Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/003480

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 2004058106	A	15-07-2004	US 2004122516 A1 WO 2004058106 A2 US 2004122514 A1	24-06-2004 15-07-2004 24-06-2004
US 5571175	A	05-11-1996	AU 6379796 A WO 9640009 A1 US 5843179 A ZA 9604886 A	30-12-1996 19-12-1996 01-12-1998 11-02-1997
US 6652540	B1	25-11-2003	US 6352543 B1 AU 5740901 A CA 2387618 A1 EP 1284660 A1 JP 2003533251 T WO 0182803 A1 US 2002103495 A1 US 2004034377 A1 US 2004116945 A1 US 6719768 B1 US 2005021059 A1 US 6802847 B1 AU 755190 B2 AU 2674699 A CA 2320956 A1 EP 1054641 A1 JP 2002502663 T US 2003158573 A1 WO 9940868 A1 US 2002077566 A1 US 2002161424 A1 US 2001041902 A1 US 2002144696 A1 US 2004077987 A1 US 2004168691 A1 US 2004167444 A1 US 2001025643 A1	05-03-2002 12-11-2001 28-11-2001 26-02-2003 11-11-2003 08-11-2001 01-08-2002 19-02-2004 17-06-2004 13-04-2004 27-01-2005 12-10-2004 05-12-2002 30-08-1999 19-08-1999 29-11-2000 29-01-2002 21-08-2003 19-08-1999 20-06-2002 31-10-2002 15-11-2001 10-10-2002 22-04-2004 02-09-2004 26-08-2004 04-10-2001
CH 608368	A5	15-01-1979	NONE	
US 5123918	A	23-06-1992	FR 2642960 A1 AT 91613 T DE 69002254 D1 DE 69002254 T2 DE 383676 T1 EP 0383676 A1 ES 2017595 T3 JP 1883541 C JP 3103253 A JP 6004081 B	17-08-1990 15-08-1993 26-08-1993 03-02-1994 07-02-1991 22-08-1990 01-01-1994 10-11-1994 30-04-1991 19-01-1994